

Amendments to the Claims:

Claim 1 (twice amended) A method for workpiece movement and positioning comprising the steps of:

loading ~~the~~ a workpiece;

moving ~~the~~ said workpiece linearly to a predetermined location;

stopping ~~the~~ said linear movement of ~~the~~ said workpiece at the said predetermined location;

returning ~~the~~ said workpiece to its original location;

and unloading ~~the~~ said workpiece;

~~and the optional step of:~~

constantly rotating ~~the~~ said workpiece when ~~the~~ said workpiece is moving linearly or at the said predetermined location;

~~and the optional steps of:~~

not constantly rotating ~~the~~ said workpiece when ~~the~~ said workpiece is moving linearly or at the said predetermined location and instead holding ~~the~~ said workpiece in a fixed position for a predetermined period of time;

~~and the optional steps of:~~

~~not constantly rotating the said workpiece when the said workpiece is moving linearly or at~~

~~the said predetermined location and instead holding the said workpiece in a fixed~~

~~position for a predetermined period of time;~~

~~lowering the said workpiece a predetermined distance;~~

~~indexing the said workpiece by rotating the said workpiece a predetermined~~

~~incremental amount;~~

~~raising the said workpiece back into position;~~

~~holding the said workpiece in a fixed position for a predetermined amount of time;~~

~~and~~

~~repeating the said lowering, indexing, raising and holding steps until the workpiece~~

~~has been indexed 360 degrees or less as required by the said workpiece.~~

Claim 2 (original) The method as set forth in claim 1 including an induction coil and quench means; the step of activating the induction coil and quench means as the workpiece travels linearly to harden the workpiece.

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (original) The method as set forth in claim 1 including an induction coil and quench means; the step of activating the induction coil and quench means while the workpiece is being held in position.

Claim 5 (original) The method of claim 1 including any of the means for milling, drilling, welding, assembling, stamping, marking or bending; including the step of activating the means for milling, drilling, welding, assembling, stamping, marking or bending.

Claim 6 (original) A workpiece movement and positioning device, the workpiece being located on center with the movement and positioning device, the workpiece movement and positioning device comprising:

- a frame for attaching the workpiece movement and positioning device;
- a computer or control mechanism for turning on and off the workpiece movement and positioning device and other components and/or attachments;
- an actuator consisting of a ball screw/ball spline assembly with servo motors and a lift shaft for providing the linear and rotational movement of the workpiece such that the workpiece can be caused to move linearly, linear and hold, linearly with rotation, and/or lift and index;

- a means for moving the lift shaft linearly without undue bending or flexing;
- a means for holding the workpiece in position on the lift shaft;
- a manual safety switch to prevent the device from being operated unintentionally.

Claim 7 (original) The workpiece movement and positioning device of claim 6 further comprising shielding and drain pans to contain any quench fluid and as a safety guard.

Claim 8 (original) The workpiece movement and positioning device of claim 7 - further comprising induction hardening and quenching means wherein the workpiece and hardening means can be operated in either a scan hardening process, a pop up induction hardening process and/or a lift and index hardening process.

Claim 9 (original) The workpiece movement and positioning device of claim 7 further comprising other working tools controlled by the computer to perform work in the workpiece.